

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 NEA-06 AF-04 SP-02

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R 281721Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0611

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06394

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, EF, EC, NL, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH REMAIN UNDECIDED ON PARTICIPATION IN
GENEVA MEPC

REF: THE HAGUE 1999

1. REGARDING VAN DER STOEL'S REMARKS IN REFTTEL, WE
SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT BRITISH OFFICIALS INSIST TO US
THEY (UNLIKE THE FRENCH) HAVE NO PREFERENCE FOR PARTICI-
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PATING IN GENEVA MEPC CONFERENCE. RATHER, THEY REFUSE TO

ADDRESS THE QUESTION SERIOUSLY IN THE ABSENCE OF AN
INVITATION HAVING BEEN ISSUED --
AND HAVE SO INFORMED THEIR EC ALLIES.

2. FCO NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA DEPARTMENT HEAD URWICK
REITERATED TO US THAT HE HAD AGAIN TAKEN SUCH A POSITION
AT EC MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS' MEETING HE ATTENDED LAST
WEEK.

3. WHILE WE OBVIOUSLY CANNOT BE SURE OF EXACT OVERTONES
THAT COULD BE READ INTO FONSEC CALLAGHAN'S CONVERSATIONS
WITH FELLOW EC MINISTERS AT DUBLIN AND LUXEMBOURG, WE
ARE CERTAIN BRITISH OFFICIALS UNDERSTAND CALLAGHAN'S
POLICY AS ONE OF WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE UNDER THE
RIGHT CONDITIONS, BALANCED BY RESERVE IN EXPRESSING SUCH
WILLINGNESS AS LONG AS THE CONDITIONS REMAIN AS UNCLEAR
AS THEY ARE AT PRESENT. WE WOULD EXPECT CALLAGHAN (AND
PRIME MINISTER WILSON) TO HAVE THIS QUESTION VERY MUCH
IN MIND WHEN THEY DISCUSS USG PERCEPTIONS OF NEXT STEPS
IN ME PEACEMAKING PROCESS AT WASHINGTON MEETINGS MAY 6
AND 7.

RICHARDSON

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